STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 8-2021

EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING A DISASTER TO EXIST IN DAWSON, GARFIELD, MCCONE, RICHLAND AND ROOSEVELT COUNTIES WITHIN THE STATE OF MONTANA

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2021, a series of severe thunderstorms impacted the East Central portion of the state. These severe thunderstorms with hail as large as three inches in diameter and recorded wind speeds of 70-90 mph with winds up to 115 mph, caused damages to over 800 power poles and lines across the East Central portion of Montana; and

WHEREAS, the customers of Lower Yellowstone Electric Cooperative, McCone Electric Cooperative and Sheridan Electric Cooperative were without power for up to five days; and

WHEREAS, severe thunderstorms had caused significant damages to the electrical infrastructure owned by cooperatives; and

WHEREAS, the immediate restoration of electrical power was and is essential to ensure the health, safety and welfare of residents of the affected counties as record heat is settling into the region; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned electrical cooperatives have expended considerable amounts of resources and manpower and have taken all possible actions to respond, mitigate, repair and alleviate the situation; and

WHEREAS, Montana will be requesting federal disaster assistance on behalf of the affected counties and electrical cooperatives; a state declaration is necessary before the request can be submitted; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation of disaster authorizes the Governor under Sections 10-3-311 and 90-4-302, MCA, to expend funds from the general fund to meet contingencies and needs arising from these conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREG GIANFORTE, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Montana, Title 10, Chapter 3, Mont. Code Ann., and under other applicable statutes, do hereby declare a disaster exists in Dawson, Garfield, McCone, Richland and Roosevelt Counties within the State of Montana.

This Order is effective June 10, 2021.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 15th day of June, 2021.

GREG GIANFORTE, Governor

ATTEST:

CHRISTI JACOBSEN, Secretary of State